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149CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY China

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DATE

SUBJECT Economic Information: Meiho, Manchuria

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SUPPLEMENT

ORIGIN
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1. There is a large wine distilling factory in Meiho and a rice milling factory, the Doshin (同信) Milling Factory, which is under the supervision of the supply department of the Chinese Communist forces. [REDACTED] Note: It was impossible to tell, from the information as received, whether Meiho is the site of one or of two factories. The above interpretation is believed to be correct.
2. There are two high schools and a primary school in Meiho. Source saw nothing to indicate that adults are receiving any education, formal or informal.
3. Because of constant requisitioning by the 8th Route Army, commodity items have become scarce and prices have risen. Soon there will be a definite shortage of clothes, matches, and salt. There seems to be an ample supply of staple commodities, however, and the people will probably survive the winter without too much hardship. Source stated that in Meiho the 8th Route Army has enforced taxation up to 100% [Meaning is ambiguous.] generally in the form of consumer goods rather than money. [REDACTED] Army officials suddenly appear on the streets, visit a market and make an inventory of the quality and quantity of stock, and then collect the tax on the spot.
4. The single-track railroad that joins Meiho with Harbin has been almost completely destroyed. The line between Peian and Meiho is utilized as a highway when the regular road, in a bad state of repair, gets close enough to the smooth railroad bed surface. Seven of the ten bridges on this line have been destroyed.
5. After observing crops between Meiho and Changchun, [REDACTED] came to the conclusion that the harvest will be 50% normal. It is his opinion, however, that there will be no starvation areas.

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